

Application No.: 10/084,621

Response to Final Office Action dated August 13, 2003

Response filed November 13, 2003

Amendments to the Specification:

[00060] The generation of *Gpx2*-KO mice as B6 and 129S3 hybrids and B6 mice has been described previously (Esworthy, R. S., Mann, J. R., Sam, M. & Chu, F. (2000) Am J Physiol Gastrointest Liver Physiol 279, G426-G436). These mice were housed in ventilated cage racks (Allentown Caging Equipment, Allentown, NJ) under conventional housing conditions. The colony was monitored for infectious pathogens via sentinel mouse surveillance and necropsy of randomly selected littermates of the double-KO mice. The loose stools of several double-KO mice were negative for parasites. All mice had free access to laboratory rodent diet (5001, Purina Mills Inc., Richmond, IN) and water. This diet contains 23% protein, 4.5% fat, 6% fiber, and 0.28 ppm selenium as provided by the manufacturer (<http://www.labdiet.com> LabDiet).